

Amendments to the Specification:

Page 25, please amend the paragraph beginning on line 2 as follows:

a' The amplitude of the standing microwave field which develops in the resonator 1, and hence the amplitude of microwave oscillation which is being propagated via antenna 6, depends upon the difference between the excitation frequency ~~ans~~ and the resonance frequency of the resonator and upon the band width of the resonator. Such parameters will be explained in greater detail with reference to Fig. 2. Both parameters (i.e., the amplitude of the standing microwave field and the amplitude of microwave oscillation) are influenced by interaction between the cigarette rod 12 and the microwave field. Therefore, the amplitudes of the standing microwave fields which develop in the resonator 1 at successive frequencies f1 and f2 are different and are also subjected to different influences by the advancing cigarette rod 12. Consequently, the two amplitudes, and more particularly their average value 26 and difference 27 determined by the evaluating circuit 11, furnish indications or information not only as regards the presence or absence of impurities (foreign bodies or second material) 34 but also as concerns the density of tobacco (see the output 30 of the computer 28) and the moisture content of tobacco in the rod-like filler 12b of the tobacco rod 12 (outlet 29 of the computer 28).